

NEW COMBINATIONS IN TRADESCANTIA

D. T. MacRoberts
Louisiana State University in Shreveport

Tradescantia occidentalis (Britton) Smyth var. melanthera MacRoberts, comb. nov. Antherum connectiva fulginea. Typical T. occidentalis except for the dark brown anther connectives which appear black in the field.

This curious variety, which appears to be unique among Tradescantia, presents a striking appearance in the field. It was first found in western Louisiana where all T. occidentalis are rare. Later a large population was discovered in eastern Texas by Dr. Robert Haynes. For perhaps a mile along a roadside only this variety is to be found.

Over 300 specimens of T. occidentalis over its entire range were examined. In about 30% the color of the anther connective could be determined. With the exception of those listed below, all had the normal orange connectives.

Specimens examined: Louisiana: Lafayette, Lemon 940 (BR); vicinity of Shreveport, Caddo, MacRoberts 473 (type), 474, 869, 916, 2267 (LSUS); Texas: Gregg, MacRoberts 2319, 2323; Haynes 4777 (LSUS); Brazos, Terrell 1 (LSUS); Angelina, McCreary 49 (NLU); Arkansas: Ashley, Demaree 14750 (MO); Oklahoma, Pawnee, Tyrl & Estes 981 (OKLA).

The variety is apparently confined to east Texas, eastern Oklahoma, southern Arkansas and Louisiana.

Tradescantia ohiensis Rafinesque var. foliosa (Small) MacRoberts, comb. nov. Vaginae et folia inferiora pilosa, plantae parvulae, habitat saepe in umbra profunda. Plants averaging about 60% the height of var. ohiensis, the lower sheaths and leaves pilose with long slender eglandular hairs, decreasing above, glabrous in the inflorescence with tufts of eglandular hairs on tips of sepals and bracts; frequently found in dense shade.

Tradescantia foliosa Small, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club 24:(1897): Tradescantia caniliculata Rafinesque, Anderson & Woodson, Contr. Arn. Arb. 9: (1935); Tradescantia ohiensis Rafinesque forma pilosa Waterfall, Rhodora 56 (1934).

I have examined Small's type and several of Waterfall's form as well as numerous examples from western Louisiana; all are unquestionably the same variety. Although several authors have

described T. ohiensis as having occasional hirsute sheaths, none have commented upon the disparity in size between this variety and typical ohiensis nor its occurrence in heavily shaded habitats quite unlike those occupied by T. ohiensis. A pure stand of var. foliosa in dense shade averaged 3.7 ± 1.1 dm. (1.8 - 7.4) while nearby ohiensis averaged 6.6 ± 1.9 dm. (3.3 - 9.7). A mixed population (60% ohiensis) gave $5.9 \pm .7$ dm. (4.8 - 7.1) for foliosa, 8.6 ± 1.5 dm. (6.1 - 11.9) for ohiensis. Fourteen specimens annotated "forma pilosa" by Waterfall averaged only 2.7 ± 1.1 (1.0 - 4.6).

Specimens examined: Florida: Lake, Nash 610 (type) (NY); Oklahoma: Leflore, Means 1321; Pontotoc, McCoy 509, 2718; Pushmataha, Hooser 78, Dakens 79; McCurtain, Lloyd 238; Cherokee, Wallis 1564-1; Sequoyah, Wallis 2108; Osage, Liebenheim 51; Delaware, Wallis 2135; Payne, Coryell 867; Cleveland, Waterfall 8755 (OKLA); McCurtain, Barber 589 (LSUS); Louisiana: Caddo, MacRoberts 1692, 2314, 2334 (LSUS).

The variety apparently extends at least throughout the southern range of T. ohiensis.

These notes are part of a continuing study of the genus Tradescantia and are here published to validate them for the VASC/FLORA SEUS.

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